



by Frank Dutton

South End wanderings

I was a bit under the weather for the last part of May, but Terry and I finally got out for a bit on Sunday, June 5. We walked over to the new Harrison Avenue bridge, just missing BLW 26 on one of its short runs, which resumed a few weeks ago. There were quite a few grain cars on the siding. We were walking back and heard the blast of a diesel horn of a west-bound freight, but it was hidden by the aforementioned grain cars. The train gods have not been smiling on me lately.

I was housebound, but luckily through the wonders of modern technology, I was still able to watch quite a few Reading 2102 videos from its first runs on May 28.

Terry and I finally got out again on a cloudy, cool Saturday, June 18. On the way into town we saw the usual cut of grain cars under the new Harrison Avenue bridge. Steamtown was pretty much dead: few people, nothing much going on, but the trolley was running. When we were leaving, NKP 514 arrived with an "up-valley" excursion. Apparently, Steamtown is only capable of operating one train at a time, hence no yard shuttle/short trips that day.

I was out running errands a few days later, on June 21, but this time a lot was going on down there. DL 2045, Wabash (DL) 2409, DL 3643, DL 3007 and DL 3000 were on one track, with the Wabash unit being fueled by a Falcon Oil truck. On Bridge 60 were DL 2423 and DL 405. A couple hours later, only the Wabash unit, along with DL 2423 and .405 remained.

A short walk over to the Ridge Row area on a sunny Sunday, July 3, yielded views of a string of grain cars, but not much else.

More excitement was in store the following weekend, as we went out with a friend on a sunny and warm Saturday, July 9. Stopping at Steamtown, we saw DL

2457 sitting alone on one track, near the parking lot. Closer to Bridge 60 were DL 3007, DL 405, DL 2423, DL 3643 and DL 3642. We also stopped by the new DL Von Storch Shops, but not much was going on there, aside from DL 2452 sitting alongside the Big Hook, but it had been a while since we'd been up that way. On the way home we also stopped off at Taylor, where there was no activity, aside from NS 6957 sitting alone.

Friday, July 22, was sunny and blazing hot, and we went up the line to Carbondale with a friend. The ruins of the station area are now a little homeless camp. On a brighter note, D&H caboose 35964 looks great next to City Hall. We also stopped by Gravity Park, where the D&H monument continues to shine. We topped the day off by stopping at Bernie's Train Store on Church Street in Jessup, just a couple blocks from the D&H crossing. It's always great to stop by!

The next Bernie's Train Show will be Sunday, October 9, 2022 at the Holiday Inn Scranton East, 200 Tigue St., Dunmore PA. Follow Bernie's Model Railroad on Facebook for updates.

Finally, the ads. Now that Summer is waning, be sure to check the ads for some new projects or some fine reading material. Don't hesitate, as items have been moving. Maybe do a little house cleaning? Have unneeded items? Sell them in the Swap Shop!

The task

The rules: All *members* may submit ads, which are due at least two days before the first Saturday of the month. Your ad will run for up to six months, or until you inform this columnist that your ad has been successful, or that you've given up! Remember to send your ad or notice to cease to the street address or e-mail address below. Please do not send Swap Shop ads to the Publications Office. We will do our best to honor any special requests.

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